Absorption of 250 construction workers in Tirunelveli and Tuticorin

2898. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Memorandum dated the 19th February, 1988 from Dakshin Railway Employees Union, Palayamkottai branch has been received regarding absorption of 250 construction workers of newly constructed Broad Gauge line between Tirunelveli and Tuticorin, Southern Railway;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said project has been completed and handed over to Open line, Madurai division; and

(c) if so, whether these 250 project workers have been absorbed in the newly constructed Broad Gauge line between Tirunelveli-Tuticorin for the maintenance of the said line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Janata service between Agartala and Calcutta by Indian Airlines

2899. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Janata Service of Indian Airlines between Agartala and Calcutta; and

(b) if so, by when the service is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agitation by JNU students

2900. SHRI SAGAR RAYKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that students of the Jawaharlal Nehru University have been agitating for the past one month;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to redress the students' grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Jawaharlal Nehru University, a section of the students of the University resorted to demonstrations, boycotted their classes and went on hunger strike for a couple of weeks during the past month. The agitation was mainly centered around the case of a Ph.D. Student of the School of Environmental Sciences who was removed by the special Committee of the School from the rolls of the University for his failure to maintain the requisite standard in the prescribed courses. However, the School deferred implementation of this decision pending its consideration by Academic Council. The case has since been resolved by the Academic Council and the agitation has been called off.

The JNU Students' Union submitted a charter of 15 demands to the Vice-Chancellor on 27-1-88. These were duly considered in a meeting of University Officials and office brearers of the students' Union in a meeting held on 4-2-88.

Installation of fire-fighting equipment in Central Library, JNU

2901. SHRI SAGAR RAYKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the JNU had awarded contract for fire-fighting installations in its Central Library two years back;